

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OES-03 /068 W

----- 070018

R 302043Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4729

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 28307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, BR

SUBJECT: FONMIN SILVERIRA'S VISIT TO FRANCE

REF: PARIS 27180

1. FONMIN LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR RAYMOND CESAIRE DESCRIBED BRAZILIAN FONMIN SILVERIRA'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE OCTOBER 23 AND 24 AS A "RESUMPTION" OF EARLIER DIALOGUES. CESAIRE EXPLAINED TO EMBOFF THAT THIS WAS FIRST EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT MINISTERS LEVEL WITH BRAZILIANS IN EIGHT YEARS. DURING THIS VISIT, THE PARTIES AGREED TO AN ANNUAL MEETING OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE COMMISSIONS WHICH WOULD MEET AT LEAST ANNUALLY. BESIDES THIS AGREEMENT, A MINOR MARITIME AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED AS WELL.

2. CESAIRE EVIDENTLY CONSIDERED SILVERIRA'S VISIT A SUCCESS IN THAT (A) HE HAD FINALLY GOTTEN FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO LATIN AMERICA (THIS IS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT OF A LATIN AMERICAN FONMIN TO FRANCE IN THE GISCARD D'ESTAING REGIME):
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AND (B) SILVERIRA DEFINITELY SURPRISED AND IMPRESSED SAUVAGNARGUES AS EXTREMELY WELL VERSED IN WORLD AFFAIRS. THE PARTIES AGREED THAT FRENCH FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER NORBERT SEGARD WILL VISIT BRAZIL OCTOBER 30 KICKING

OFF TRADE COMMISSION TALKS. SAUVAGNARGUES WILL VISIT BRAZIL (AND NO OTHER COUNTRY IN LATIN AMERICA) IN JANUARY, AND IT AGREED THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL WILL MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1976.

3. CESAIRE MENTIONED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INTEREST:
(A) FRENCH HOPE TO RENEW A NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL WHICH HAS NOT BEEN RENEWED SINCE 1972. FRENCH BELIEVE THAT WEST GERMAN/BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT HAS NOT ELIMINATED POSSIBLE FRENCH OR U.S. INPUT INTO BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY FIELD BEING CONVINCED BRAZILIANS WANT TO KEEP ALL COMMERCIAL DOORS OPEN. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT BRAZILIANS WOULD HAVE TO DIGEST SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF GERMAN AGREEMENT BEFORE DEALING WITH OTHER SUPPLIERS. HE POOH-POOHED THE POSSIBILITY THAT A DIFFERENT BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT IN YEARS TO COME COULD USE THE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR BELIGERENT PURPOSES. (B) SILVERIRA MADE FORCEFUL COMMENTS ON CHILE DURING TALKS. HE STATED THAT WHILE BRAZIL MIGHT NOT FULLY SUPPORT THE CHILEAN REGIME, BRAZIL AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES TOOK UMBRAGE OVER HOW EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WERE USING CHILE AS A MORALITY LESSON WHILE IGNORING FAR GREATER CIVIL LIBERTY ABUSES NEXT DOOR, I.E. IN THE SOVIET BLOC.

4. COMMENT: WHETHER CESAIRE CAN /:KEP EUROPE-ORIENTED SAUVAGNARGUES INTERESTED IN LATIN AMERICA BEYOND HIS BRAZIL TRIP IS QUESTIONABLE. DESPITE ITS POSSESSIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN, FRANCE'S INTEREST IN SPANISH-PORTUGUESE SPEAKING AMERICA WILL PROBABLY REMAIN SPORADIC UNTIL ITS HOLDINGS ARE THREATENED FROM OUTSIDE OR THEY OBTAIN A SPECTACULAR COMMERCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP SOMEPLACE. INTERESTINGLY, RE THE FIRST POSSIBILITY, CESAIRE AT ONE POINT NOTED THE STRIDENCY OF THE CUBAN CAMPAIGN ON THE PUERTO RICAN ISSUE AND REFLECTED THAT IN TIME THE CUBANS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TURN THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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RHETORIC ON THE ISSUE OF THE FRENCH TERRITORIES IN LATIN AMERICA.
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RHETORIC ON THE ISSUE OF THE FRENCH TERRITORIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS28307
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750377-0991
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197510102/baaaaauaq.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, FR, BR, (AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA, ANTONIO)
To: STATE
BRASILIA INFO SANTIAGO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006